



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
Subject:	Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland - Annual Conference 2010
Date:	Friday, 18th June, 2010
Reporting Officer:	Mr. L. Steele, Head of Committee and Members' Services
Contact Officer:	Mr. L. Steele, Head of Committee and Members' Services

Relevant Background Information

At its meeting on 23rd April the Committee was advised that the Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland would be holding its annual conference in Bunclara, County Donegal from Thursday, 9th till Friday, 10th September, 2010. The Committee decided not to appoint representatives to attend the conference.

However, I have received contact from the organisers who point out that Belfast Councillors normally attend. The organisers feel that the conference programme would prove to be of benefit to Belfast and they are anxious for the City to be represented on this occasion.

In view of this approach, I considered that it would be appropriate to bring the conference to the Committee's attention again in order to establish whether Members are content that there is no need or desire for anyone to attend.

The theme of the conference is 'Local Government for the Future' and the agenda will include sessions on Local Government in Europe, democratic accountability for the health services and the future of Local Government.

The conference will be opened officially by John Gormley, T.D., and it is expected that a number of high profile Local Government spokespersons from all political parties will be in attendance.

Key Issues

The business of the Conference falls within the criteria set out in Section 38 of the 1972 Local Government (Northern Ireland) Act in that it involves issues connected with the discharge of the functions of the Council and/or affecting the district or its inhabitants.

Resource Implications

Delegate Fee:	£177
Accommodation Costs:	£156
Travel:	£103
Subsistence:	£155

Total per delegate	£591

Decision Required

To determine whether the Committee should be represented at the Conference.